



IBM Docket No. BUR9-1999-0267-US1

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Amendment Response/Transmittal

In re application of: Francis A. Abramovich et al.

Serial No. 09/650,103

Filed: August 29, 2000

For: METHOD FOR SURFACE PREPARATION OF WORKPIECES UTILIZING FLUID SEPARATION TECHNIQUES

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
BOX NON-FEE AMENDMENT
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir: Date: December 17, 2002

Transmitted herewith for filing is an **Amendment/Response** in the above-identified Application.

No additional fee is required.
The fee has been calculated as shown below:

(Col. 1)	(Col. 2)	(Col. 3)
CLAIMS REMAINING AFTER AMENDMENT	HIGHEST NO. PREVIOUSLY PAID FOR	PRESENT EXTRA
TOTAL 28 *	MINUS 30**	= 0
INDEPENDENT 4 *	MINUS 5***	= 0
1ST PRESENTATION OF MULTIPLE DEPENDENT CLAIMS		

Other Than Small Entity	
RATE	ADDITIONAL FEE
x \$ 18.00 =	\$ 0
x \$ 84.00 =	\$ 0
\$280.00	\$
TOTAL	\$ 0

* If the entry in Col. 1 is less than the entry in Col. 2, write "0" in Col. 3.

** If the "Highest No. Previously Paid For" IN THIS SPACE is less than 20, enter "20"

*** If the "Highest No. Previously Paid For" IN THIS SPACE is less than 3, enter "3". The "Highest No. Previously Paid For" (Total or Independent) is the highest number found in the appropriate box in Col. 1 of a prior amendment or the number of claims originally filed.

Please charge the Assignee IBM Corporation Deposit Account No. 09-0456 in the amount of \$ 0. A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge payment of the following fees associated with this communication or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 09-0456. A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed.

Any additional filing fees required under 37 C.F.R. §1.16.

Any patent application processing fees under 37 C.F.R. §1.17.

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I hereby certify that this paper is being facsimile transmitted to the Assistant Commissioner for Patents on the date shown below.	
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Signature	<u>12/16/02</u>
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Respectfully submitted,

BY

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DOCKET: BUR9-1999-0267-US1

PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

INVENTOR: Francis A. Abramovich et al.) EXAMINER: Zeinab El Arini
SERIAL NO.: 09/650,103)
FILING DATE: August 29, 2000) ART UNIT: 1746
FOR: METHOD FOR SURFACE) DATE: December 17, 2002
PREPARATION OF)
WORKPIECES UTILIZING)
FLUID SEPARATION)
TECHNIQUES)

AMENDMENT

Assistant Commissioner of Patents
BOX NON-FEE AMENDMENT
Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

Responsive to the Office Action mailed September 25, 2002, please reconsider the above-identified application in view of the following amendments and remarks.

In the Claims

Please cancel claims 29-30 without prejudice.

Please amend claims 1, 11, 12, 16, 17, 18, 24, 25 and 26 as follows.

Sub Cl 1

1. (Amended) A method of preparing an article surface comprising the steps of:

2

3 providing at least two fluids of differing densities such that a fluid interface

4 exists between each fluid;

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